-continued

References	
Reference	DOI
Schumacher 2014: F. F. Schumacher, J. P. M. Nunes, A. Maruani, V. Chudasama, M. E. B. Smith, K. A. Chester, J. R. Baker, S. Caddick, <i>Org. Biomol. Chem.</i> 2014, 12, 7261-9	10.1039/c4ob01550a
Wang 2017: Y. Wang, A. G. Cheetham, G. Angacian, H. Su, L. Xie, H. Cui, <i>Advanced Drug Delivery Reviews</i> 2017, 110- 111, 112	10.1016/j.addr.2016.06.015
Zimmerman 2014: E. S. Zimmerman, T. H. Heibeck, A. Gill, X. Li, C. J. Murray, M. R. Madlansacay, C. Tran, N. T. Uter, G. Yin, P. J. Rivers, et al., <i>Bioconjug. Chem.</i> 2014, 25, 351-61	10.1021/bc400490z

1. A conjugate comprising a protein or a peptide, a linker and an active agent, wherein the linker comprises the moiety of formula (III):

 $\begin{array}{c} Pep \\ \text{propose} \end{array}$

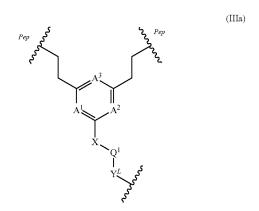
wherein two of A^1 , A^2 and A^3 are N and the other of A^1 , A^2 and A^3 is CH;

X is selected from N, O and S, and

Pep indicates where the moiety is linked to the protein or peptide, either directly or indirectly.

- 2-3. (canceled)
- **4**. The conjugate according to claim **1**, wherein the protein is an antibody or an antigen-binding fragment thereof.
 - 5. (canceled)
- **6.** The conjugate according to claim **4**, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof is directed to a tumor associated antigen.
 - 7-9. (canceled)
- 10. The conjugate according to claim 1, wherein the active agent is a drug, which is a cytotoxin.
 - 11-12. (canceled)
- 13. The conjugate according to claim 1, wherein $A^{\rm 1}$ and $A^{\rm 2}$ are N.
 - 14. (canceled)
- **15**. The conjugate according to claim **1**, wherein X is selected from NR^N , O and S, where R^N is H or C_{1-2} alkyl, and there is a single active agent attached to X via a linker.

16. The conjugate according to claim 15, wherein the linker comprises the moiety of formula (IIIa):



wherein Q¹ is:

where a1=0 to 5, b1=0 to 16, c1=0 to 5, d1 is 0 to 16, and b1+d1=0 to 16;

and Y^L is a functional linking moiety.

17. The conjugate according to claim 16, wherein Y^L is selected from the group consisting of:

(a)

and (b) —C(=O)NH—.